

Message Text

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SUBJECT: PROGRAM PROPOSALS FOR IVP GRANTEE: CYWINSKA, IZABELLA

REF: WARSAW 3792-C, 4269-C

1. IVP GRANTEE IZABELLA CYWINSKA, DIRECTOR OF THE TEATR NOWY (NEW THEATER) IN POZNAN, HAS BEEN INVITED TO DIRECT A PLAY AT THE SLAVIC CENTER AT STONY BROOK, LONG ISLAND, IN CONJUNCTION WITH HER FORTHCOMING IVP PROGRAM. PROFESSOR EDWARD CZERWINSKI, DIRECTOR OF THE SLAVIC CENTER AND PROFESSOR OF DRAMA AT THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK AT STONY BROOK, HAS INVITED CYWINSKA TO DIRECT, AND HER HUSBAND TO PLAY THE LEADING ROLE, IN A PRODUCTION SCHEDULED FOR PRESENTATION AT THE CENTER LATE IN SEPTEMBER 1975 AND ON WHICH SHE WILL BEGIN WORK ON OR ABOUT SEPTEMBER 1, 1975. THE EMBASSY IS MOST PLEASED THAT THIS ADDITIONAL CULTURAL EXCHANGE WILL TAKE PLACE IN CONJUNCTION WITH ONE OF OUR GRANTS AND AT NO ADDITIONAL EXPENSE TO THE U.S. GOVERNMENT. ADDITIONALLY, THIS APPROXIMATELY ONE MONTH ADDITIONAL STAY IN THE GREATER NEW YORK METROPOLITAN AREA, WILL ALLOW DIRECTOR CYWINSKA TO BECOME EVEN MORE FAMILIAR WITH THE THEATER SCENE IN NEW YORK DURING HER STAY IN THE U.S.

2. DIRECTOR CYWINSKA WOULD LIKE TO BEGIN HER OFFICIAL PROGRAM IN WASHINGTON, D.C. ONE OR ABOUT OCTOBER 1, 1975. WE RECOMMEND THAT SHE DETERMINE, AT THAT POINT AND IN CONJUNCTION WITH HER PROGRAMMI G AGENCY, THE AMOUNT OF ADDITIONAL TIME SHE FEELS IT NECESSARY TO SPEND IN THE GREATER NEW YORK METROPOLITAN AREA AT THE CONCLUSION OF HER 30 DAY
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OFFICIAL PROGRAM.

3. DIRECTOR CYWINSKA HAS EXPRESSED INTEREST IN VISITING THE FOLLOWING CITIES AND MEETING WITH THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS AND ORGANIZATIONS DURING HER OFFICIAL PROGRAM:

A. CALIFORNIA: CYWINSKA WOULD SPECIFICALLY LIKE TO VISIT THE PRO-VISUAL THEATRE AT U.C. BERKELEY, AND THE TEATRO CAMPESINO IN SAN BERNARDINO. A VISIT TO THE THEATRE ARTS DEPARTMENT AT U.C.L.A. WOULD ALSO FIT IN NICELY WITH HER INTEREST IN UNIVERSITY THEATRE AND TEACHING TECHNIQUES.

B. MINNEAPOLIS, MINN: K: A VISIT TO THE TYRONE GUTHRIE THEATRE IS A MUST, AS IT ILLUSTRATES THE VERY BEST IN REGIONAL THEATRE.

C. BALTIMORE, MD.: ALTERNATIVE THEATRE AND THE IOWA THEATRE LAB ARE NOW IN BALTIMORE UNDER THE GENERAL DIRECTION OF PHILLIP ARNAULT, WHO IS IN THE PROCESS OF WORKING OUT AN EXCHANGE WITH GROTOWSKI'S THEATRE LAB IN WROCLAW. A VISIT HERE WOULD PROVIDE A GOOD ILLUSTRATION OF THE EXPERIMENTAL THEATRE MOVEMENT OUTSIDE OF N.Y.C.

D. NEW HAVEN, CONN.: THE YALE DRAMA SCHOOL FOR A MORE CONSERVATIVE VIEW OF AMERICAN UNIVERSITY DRAMA TEACHING AND PRODUCTION.

E. NEW YORK CITY: ALTHOUGH CYWINSKA MAY HAVE TIME DURING HER FIRST MONTH ON LONG ISLAND TO MAKE INITIAL N.Y.C. CONTACTS, WE FEEL A REGULAR PROGRAM IN THE CITY OUGHT NOT BEGIN UNTIL SHE CAN DEVOTE HERSELF TO IT, FREE OF HER DIRECTORIAL DUTIES. IT WOULD, HOWEVER, BE USEFUL IF SOME OF THOSE SHE'LL BE SEEING IN N.Y. COULD SEE HER PRODUCTION. (1) REICHARD SCHECHNER OF "DRAMA REVIEW". AN EARLY INTERVIEW WITH SCHECHNER WOULD PROVIDE HER WITH A USEFUL OVERVIEW OF AMERICAN THEATRE IN GENERAL AND NEW YORK THEATRE IN PARTICULAR. HER INTEREST, IT SHOULD BE STRESSED, IS IN "NEW" THEATRE; THAT IS, INNOVATIVE, ETHNIC, AND UNIVERSITH THEATRE NOT NECESSARILY CONFINED TO N.Y.C. (2) IF POSSIBLE, THE EMBASSY WOULD LIKE CYWINSKA TO MEET JOSEPH PAPP AND ERIC BENTLY (WHO CAN BE REACHED THROUGH THE HERBERT BERGHOFF STUDIO). SHE WOULD BE INTERESTED IN SEEING AS MANY AS POSSIBLE OF THE FOLLOWING COMPANIES:

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FEMININE THEATER - ROBERTA SKLAR

WOMAN'S UNIT - ROBERTA SKLAR

N.Y. FEMINIST THEATER - LUCY WINTER, CLAUDETTE

CHARBONNEAU

IT'S ALRIGHT TO BE A WOMAN - SUE PEARLGUT

LA MAMA EXPERIMENTAL THEATRE

AND THE MANHATTAN THEATRE PROJECT - ANDRE GREGORY

3. SET DESIGN: GIVEN HER INTEREST IN SET DESIGN, WE RECOMMEND VISITS TO THE METROPOLITAN OPERA AND PERHAPS A PERFORMANCE OF ONE OF THE "RING" OR OF "CARMEN" OR "SICILIAN YESPERS". SHE MIGHT ALSO WANT TO MEET CITY OPERA SET DESIGNER, MING CHO LEE.

4. THINGS TOURISTIC: CYWINSKA WOULD LIKE TO VISIT AS MANY MUSEUMS OF MODERN ART AS FIT THE SCHEDULE IN THE CITIES SHE WILL VISIT. SHE REGARDS THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART, THE WHITNEY AND THE GUGGENHEIM AS MUST TO VISIT. SHE IS ALSO INTERESTED IN AMERICAN INDIAN CULTURE AND WOULD LIKE TO MIX INDIAN CULTURE AND THEATRE IF ANY OPPORTUNITY FOR THAT EXISTS AND SHE WOULD LIKE TO VISIT DISNEYLAND.

5. COMMENT: CYWINSKA HAS NO INTEREST WHATEVER IN POLONIA AND WISHES TO AVOID IT COMPLETELY. THOUGH SHE LACKS ENGLISH AND WILL NEED AN INTERPRETER FULL-TIME WHEN HER REGULAR PROGRAM BEGINS, WE BELIEVE THAT SHE IS EMINENTLY WELL-SUITED TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS OPPORTUNITY TO EXPERIENCE AMERICAN THEATRE FIRST-HAND. WE EXPECT THAT CY AND HER PROGRAMMING AGENCY WILL FIND HER A JOY TO WORK WITH.

6 THE PLAY WHICH DIRECTOR CYWINSKA WILL DIRECT AT THE SLAVIC CENTER HAS NOT YET BEEN DECIDED UPON. WE WILL INFORM THE DEPARTMENT AS SOON AS WE HAVE ANY FURTHER INFORMATION ON THIS BY CABLE.

7 THE EMBASSY REQUESTS THAT THE DEPARTMENT CABLE APPROVAL OF DIRECTOR CYWINSKA'S PROGRAM PROPOSALS AND APPROXIMATE ARRIVAL TIME FOR THE BEGINNING OF HER OFFICIAL PROGRAM AS SOON AS POSSIBLE SO THAT WE MAY MOVE FORWARD WITH THE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE FOREGOING PROGRAM. PLEASE ADVISE.
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